Star 3/31/67

Yale Law School Puts Oswald on Mock Trial

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (UPI)—The Yale Law School puts Lee Harvey Oswald on mock trial today for murder in the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Dallas Patrolman J. D. Tippitt.

The case is being heard under strict courtroom conditions with Jacob D. Fuchsberg, a New York lawyer, acting as judge. Law school seniors Kevin J. McInerney of Washington and John Bush of Summit, N.J., are the prosecutors. Walter H. Rockenstein of Morgantown, W. Va., and Charles O. Blaisdell of New York, both law school sophomores, are handling the defense.

The senior class said it hoped the mock trial would be a testing ground for the Warren Commission Report and various theories advanced on the subject of the Nov. 22, 1963 assassination in Dallas.

The trial attempted to duplicate the procedures that would have been followed had not Jack Ruby shot Oswald to death two days after the assassination.

A jury of 12 with two alternates was chosen from members of a local civic club. The jury could reach one of three findings: That Oswald was guilty and acted alone; that he was guilty and part of a conspiracy; that he was innocent.

The "prosecution" indicated it would use with some modifications of the findings of the Warren Commission: That Oswald acted alone and that Kennedy and the governor were hit by the same bullet.

The "defense" gave no indications of the directions it would follow.

In New Orleans Mark Lane, an original critic of the Warren Commission Report, said yesterday he has reviewed Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's evidence of a Kennedy assassination conspiracy and predicted Garrison will get a conviction.